

US ARMY RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE SURVEY

The Army Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) program implements the Military Housing Privatization Initiative (MHPI), Section 2801 of the 1996 Defense Authorization Act. Under the RCI program, Army family housing units would be managed by a private entity. To accomplish this, the housing units and ancillary support facilities would be transferred, and the real property within the housing areas would be leased. The RCI program in Hawaii would include 7,704 family housing units at Fort Shafter (559 units), Schofield Barracks (3,356 units), Tripler Army Medical Center (216 units), Wheeler Army Airfield (657 units), Aliamanu Military Reservation (2,028 units), and Helemano Military Reservation (888 units).

Based on a number of factors, the Army will select a private development company to manage the Army family housing units. Once the development company is selected for the project, it and the Army will prepare a Community Development Management Plan (CDMP) to detail the development proposal for the family housing units and support facilities at the six installations. The RCI development proposal would involve demolition, construction, and renovation of family housing units at the six Army installations. These actions would be undertaken to meet the housing demand and needs identified in the Housing Market Analysis.

Two environmental documents are being prepared to support the RCI project—an Environmental Assessment and an Environmental Baseline Survey.

The Environmental Assessment would meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and Army Regulation 200-2 (Environmental Analysis of Army Actions). The Environmental Assessment would evaluate and identify the potential environmental effects resulting from implementing the RCI project. The Environmental Assessment will present the current condition of environmental resources and identify and describe the potential effects on those resources that could result from implementing the RCI project. Information on these resources would be gathered through site visits, data collection, and consultation with local agencies.

The Environmental Baseline Survey would be prepared to document the presence of hazardous substances and conditions in structures and real property that would be subject to transfer or lease as part of the proposed RCI project. The Environmental Baseline Survey would support a Finding of Suitability to Transfer and a Finding of Suitability to Lease. The Environmental Baseline Survey would present information gathered through site inspections, record searches, and interviews.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on the RCI project, please contact Mr. Wesley Nakamoto, Environmental Protection Specialist, US Army RCI Office.

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Information on the RCI project also will be made available on the Internet at <http://dpw.schofield.army.mil/rci/>.